

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NSCE-00 SAJ-01 NIC-01 SAM-01 AID-20

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /139 W

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R 300900Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4279

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11322

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, VN

SUBJECT: FONOFF EXPRESSED CONCERN RE: DRV-JAPAN NEGOTIATIONS LEAK

REF: TOKYO 10996 (AND PREVIOUS)

SUMMARY: FONOFF EXPRESSED CONCERN TO EMBASSY OVER APPARENT
LEAK BY US OFFICIALS OF INFO ON DRV-JAPAN NEGOTIATIONS.
END SUMMARY.

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1. FONOFF FIRST SE ASIA DIV DIRECTOR HAHABUSA CALLED IN

EMBOFF TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER ARTICLE ON DRV-GOJ NEGOTIATIONS BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT KOMORI IN MAINICHI AUGUST 21, DATELINED SAIGON, CITING OFFICIAL US EXPERTS ON NVN. ARTICLE SAID DRV-GOJ NEGOTIATIONS SEEM TO BE NEARING SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION WHICH WOULD PERMIT OPENING JAPANESE EMBASSY IN HANOI. CITING US OFFICIAL SOURCES, KOMORI SAID HANOI WAS NO LONGER DEMANDING THAT JAPAN DENY TO US USE OF BASES IN JAPAN. HE SAID FURTHER THAT HANOI WAS DEMONSTRATING MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION WITH GOJ NEGOTIATORS ON QUESTION OF PRG, DEMANDING EITHER "RECOGNITION" OR A "MEANINGFUL GESTURE" TOWARD PRG. ("MEANINGFUL GESTURE" FORMULATION HAS NOT BEEN IN JAPANESE PRESS HERETOFORE.)

2. HANABUSA SAID ARTICLE CONTAINED INFORMATION (PARA 1 ABOVE) FONOFF HAD GIVEN US BUT HAD NOT YET MADE KNOWN TO DIET NOR TO ITS EMBASSY IN SAIGON. ARTICLE COULD BE EMBARRASSING WITH DIET AND OF COURSE WITH DRV, WITH WHOM GOJ IS AT CRITICAL STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS. HE COMMENTED PARENTHETICALLY THAT ON BASIS ARTICLE, HANOI COULD READILY DISCERN HOW CLOSE JAPAN'S RELATIONS ARE WITH US.

3. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT WE FULLY UNDERSTOOD GOJ'S SENSITIVITIES ON SUBJECT AND THAT IT WAS UNFORTUNATE US OFFICIALS SHOULD BE CITED ON SENSITIVE SUBJECT, WHETHER ON BASIS OF SPECULATION OR OFFICIAL INFORMATION. HE PROMISED TO RELAY CONCERN TO WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE.

4. COMMENT: HANABUSA WAS OPEN AND FRIENDLY AS ALWAYS AND SAID FONOFF WOULD NOT PROTEST BUT HOPED WE WOULD RESPECT SENSITIVITIES OF NEGOTIATIONS. SINCE EMBASSY CONSTANTLY CONDUCTS EXCHANGE WITH HANABUSA ON SENSITIVE ISSUES IN REST OF INDOCHINA AND UN, AS WELL AS ON DRV-JAPAN RELATIONS, WE HOPE ADDRESSEES WILL HOLD INFORMATION THESE SUBJECTS CLOSELY.
HODGSON

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